SENATE BILL No. 421

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 12-7-2-146; IC 12-14-30.

Synopsis: Work pays program. Establishes the Indiana work pays program to help participants move into higher paying jobs that are available in a participant's region. Provides that the program may include: (1) employment exchanges; (2) education and training; (3) work supports; and (4) other services designed to help program participants increase earnings and develop careers. States that a program participant is eligible for $204 in cash assistance per month and other financial incentives developed by the division of family resources. Requires the office of the secretary of family and social services to determine whether federal money or grant money is available to fund the program.

Effective: Upon passage; July 1, 2007.

Simpson

January 16, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Tax and Fiscal Policy.

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First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type.~~
  Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.
  Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *~~this style type~~* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 421

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning human services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 12-7-2-146 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 146. "Program" refers
3 to the following:
4   (1) For purposes of IC 12-10-7, the adult guardianship services
5   program established by IC 12-10-7-5.
6   (2) For purposes of IC 12-10-10, the meaning set forth in
7   IC 12-10-10-5.
8   **(3) For purposes of IC 12-14-30, the meaning set forth in**
9   **IC 12-14-30-1.**
10   ~~(3)~~ **(4)** For purposes of IC 12-17.6, the meaning set forth in
11   IC 12-17.6-1-5.
12 SECTION 2. IC 12-14-30 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
13 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
14 JULY 1, 2007]:
15   **Chapter 30. Indiana Work Pays Program**
16   **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the Indiana**
17   **work pays program established by section 2 of this chapter.**

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1   **Sec. 2. The Indiana work pays program is established for the**
2   **purpose of helping program participants move into higher paying**
3   **jobs. The program shall be administered by the division.**
4   **Sec. 3. (a) An applicant is eligible for the program if the**
5   **individual:**
6   **(1) resides in Indiana at the time of application and at the time**
7   **the individual receives assistance under the program;**
8   **(2) has custody of a related minor child;**
9   **(3) has not previously received more than twenty-four (24)**
10   **months of assistance under the program;**
11   **(4) is working in a paid job for a minimum of twenty-four (24)**
12   **hours per week and has met the federal work participation**
13   **requirements for:**
14   **(A) the previous month; or**
15   **(B) one (1) of the last three (3) months and for at least**
16   **three (3) of the last six (6) months for continuing eligibility;**
17   **(5) is:**
18   **(A) a United States citizen;**
19   **(B) a qualified alien lawfully present in the United States**
20   **before August 22, 1996;**
21   **(C) a qualified alien who physically entered the United**
22   **States after August 21, 1996, and who has been in qualified**
23   **immigrant status for at least five (5) years; or**
24   **(D) an alien to whom benefits under TANF must be**
25   **provided under federal law;**
26   **(6) has an income below one hundred percent (100%) of the**
27   **federal income poverty level; and**
28   **(7) signs and complies with a personal responsibility**
29   **agreement.**
30   **(b) An individual whom the division determines is eligible for**
31   **the program shall receive at least one (1) of the following services:**
32   **(1) Cash assistance.**
33   **(2) Support services.**
34   **(3) Medical assistance.**
35   **(4) Employment assistance.**
36   **(c) A family that participates in the program shall receive**
37   **monthly cash assistance equal to two hundred four dollars ($204)**
38   **per month. The family may also be eligible for bonus financial**
39   **incentives in an amount and at a time determined by the division.**
40   **(d) The program is not an entitlement. The program is limited**
41   **to assisting not more than three thousand (3,000) individuals.**
42   **Sec. 4. (a) If the division certifies to the governor, the legislative**

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council, and the health finance commission that action is necessary to avoid enrolling more than three thousand (3,000) individuals, the division may authorize a reduction of the number of months for which a family may receive services under the program. The reduction may be in three (3) month increments from the maximum participation of twenty-four (24) months.

(b) A family that loses eligibility because of a reduction made under subsection (a) shall qualify for financial incentives offered to families leaving the program.

(c) The division shall stop the reduction described in subsection (a) if the reduction is no longer necessary to maintain enrollment of less than three thousand (3,000) individuals in the program.

Sec. 5. A family that participates in the program is eligible for the program for not more than twenty-four (24) months.

Sec. 6. (a) The division shall administer a work incentive initiative within the program that includes cash bonuses and other incentives to encourage program participants:

(1) to continue to be employed for at least twenty-four (24) hours a week and to meet the federal work participation rate; and

(2) to leave the program and to continue employment for at least twenty-four (24) hours per week.

(b) The division shall work with local workforce development offices to develop and administer services to program participants that are designed to help participants move into higher paying jobs available in a participant's region.

(c) Services offered under the program may include:

(1) employment exchanges;

(2) education and training;

(3) work supports; and

(4) other services designed to help program participants increase earnings and develop careers.

(d) The division may make the services under subsection (c) available to low income workers who are not participating in the program.

Sec. 7. The division may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to implement and administer the program.

SECTION 3. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] **(a) As used in this SECTION, "office of the secretary" refers to the office of the secretary of family and social services established by IC 12-8-1-1.**

(b) As used in this SECTION, "program" refers to the Indiana work pays program established by IC 12-14-30-2, as added by this

1   **act.**

2   **(c) The office of the secretary shall make every effort to secure**
3   **federal funding or other outside resources to fund the program.**
4   **The office of the secretary shall consult with the United States**
5   **Department of Health and Human Services or other federal agency**
6   **to determine whether federal Temporary Assistance for Needy**
7   **Families (TANF) money or other federal grant money is available**
8   **to fund the program. The office of the secretary may also consult**
9   **with other states that have implemented similar programs to**
10   **determine whether other federal money or grant money is**
11   **available to fund the program.**
12   **(d) If the office of the secretary determines that federal money**
13   **or grant money is available for the program, the office of the**
14   **secretary shall apply for or request the funding.**
15   **(e) This SECTION expires December 31, 2008.**
16   SECTION 4. **An emergency is declared for this act.**

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